

A METHOD AND A SYSTEM FOR
COMPUTER SOFTWARE DISTRIBUTION USING
NETWORKED SOFTWARE DISPENSING VENDING MACHINES

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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

10 A method and a system for dispensing software programs from a
networked software dispensing kiosk device or ATM. Software developers can
place software for sale within the network thereby causing various remote
15 software ATMs to offer the software. The user causes a display of a list of
different categories of software titles available through a remotely located
software ATM, e.g., located in a retail market place, or other public place. The
user makes a selection from the list and may optionally execute the selected
software using an on-screen emulation of the user's device. If the user is
20 satisfied with the execution of the selected software, the user can purchase or
rent the selected software using automated vending equipment of the software
ATM. Purchased or rented software titles are electronically communicated from
the software ATM to the user's portable computer system. The software ATM
can also provide backup and archiving services for a portable computer user.